Posner's mistakes

Posner gave Gary Mack, of Fort Worth, Texas, the same cock-and-bill story he gave me about his book exposong commercialization and exploitation of the assassination. On reading what U.S.News and World Report used from Case Closed before he had the book Gary immediately noted factual errors in it that reflect Posner's ignorance of the fact and suggest he wrote what he had been told rather than what he learned from his own work.

In contriving the non-existing case of Oswald the lone assassin in that window and inside a sniper's nest of boxes on all sides except the window, Mack noted in a memo to others that in fact that were but two stacks of boxes there, not the three of Posner's invention. This is clear in the pictures even after the police moved those cartons of books. And, as we have seen, those stacks were of the cartons moved from the western half of that floor so a new floring could be laid.

Undertaking, as he does, to debunk all that is not in accord with both his version of of it and the official story, as Gary noted on reading the magazine's selections from Posner's book, Posner consistently reflects his subject-matter ignorance, lies or both. Gary illustrated with what Posner wrote about what Julia Ann Mercer said she saw. In Posner's account, "she said she was caught in a traffic jam at Dealey Plaza on the morning of the motorcade and noticed two men in a green Ford pickup. One took a gun case from the rear of the truck and disappeared into (sic) the grassy knoll." (Page 229) His end note cites "Sheriff's statement of Julia Annn Mercer, CE 2002, WC Vol. XXIV, p. 216." (Page 514) Sounds authoritative, doesn't it? Until you check what is not Mercer's "statement" but is an affidavit to which she attested before a notra notary public in the sheriff's office.

Mercer's affidavit says no such thing as Posner says it does.

She was not caught in any motorcade traffic jam. She was not explicit in identifying what she said she saw carried as without question " a gun case", it was not in Dealey Plaza and she did not say they "disappeared into the gassy knoll!

It was some time prior to the arrival of the motorcade and traffic was moving

Insert in Posner mistakes-mark-1

Gary is a former radio and ~~TV~~ TV personality who for some years published a~~n~~ news letter in which he reported on details of and errors in the official story. He and Earl Golz, mentioned below, located motion and still pictures of the assassination that the FBI and the Commission had ~~avpi ed~~ avoided after I learned of their existence in FBI records I obtained from ~~the~~ its Dallas field office in C.A.78-0322.

normally and

well. What she actually said is that she had driven past the plaza, had gone underneath the triple underpass and was "proceeding to the overpass" of the expressway to the west of Dealey Plaza past the scene of the crime, where in the lane in which she was, closest to the curb, she was blocked by that Ford truck, it ~~which~~ was partly off the road, partly "on the curb." What she said she saw the men carry "appeared to be a gun case."(Emphasis added.) And rather than being caught in the traffic jam from the motorcade, she attested "I had been delayed because the truck which I described above was blocking my passge and I had to await (Raphaela, right, await) until the lane to my left cleared so I could go by the truck."

This is another of the many illustrations that Posner's word simply cannot be taken for anything he says, he is that wrong and that dishoenst. There is so very much of this checking him in itself leads to more work and takes more time, one of the reasons I skipped so much in drafting this book.

In looking for Posner's exact words in the book rather than in the magazine because the Julia Ann Mercer story is well known and I remembered it, Posner's footnote on the preceding pages (228) caught my eye. He lies in it and his lie is absolutely indispensible to his made-up revisionism of the official mythology. What he there tries to debunk by lying about it in actuality is part of the proof that Oswald was not in that window with a rifle ready to shoot when the motorcade appeared.

Oswald's fellow employee, Bonnie Ray Williams, was eating his lunch right NEXT to where Oswald was supposedly making his sniper's nest of boxes and putting the rifle together. (We also address this elsewhere.) He told the Warren Commission (He did not tell the Commission what Posner says he did not say.) This is Posner's footnote:"The critics assert Williams did not leave the sixth floor until 12:20. That is because before the Warren Commission, he said it was approxaimately 12:20 when he left, but when reminded of his original estimate of 12:05, he acknowledged he did not remember the time. (WC Vol III, p. 173)"

If as I did we check Posner's claimed source, we do find that Commission Counsel Joe Ball did ask Williams, "Well, is it fair to say that you do not remember the exact time now?" and that Williams did respond, "Yes, sir." But that did not relate to when

he left the alleged sniper's nest then allegedly being put up!

What Williams was testifying to was in response to what he said the FBI had asked him, in Williams' words,"How long did it take you to finish the sandwich?" It was in response to this question that Williams said, immediately before what Ball asked him, quoted above, that he did not remember giving the FBI "a definitive answer." And it is with regard to this Williams statement that Ball asked the question quoted above.

It is not as Posner says, that he admitted he did not know when he left the sixth floor.

In addition to denying that he had told the FBI it was at 12:05, as Posner also says on this page, without reporting Williams denial of it on the very page of testimony he cites, at the top of that page, when Ball asked him "Approximately what time was it?" when he "left the sixth floor," Williams replied, "Approximately 12:20, maybe."

If Posner did not lie about this his quest for fame and fortune ended with it. So, as usual, he merely lied.

The motorcade was due at that point at 12:25 p.m. In contradiction to all the evidence and as we have seen, with Posner even disputing himself, he claims that Oswald knew that time because it was in the papers. With Williams leaving at about 12:20, only five minutes before the motorcade was due, and as he testified unequivocally, having seen and heard nothing for the up to 15 minutes that eating his lunch took, that left Oswald only five minutes for whatever time is imagined for his imagined building of his imagined sniper's nest and to reassemble the rifle. Now the FBI, which is expert in such matters, as Oswald was not, required six minutes to reassemble the rifle. Which, as we have also seen, all the evidence is that he did not and could not have taken into that building that morning. If it took the FBI that long, it certainly would have taken Oswald at least that long.

Williams' testimony proves that Oswald was not there and could not have made that imagined sniper's nest and reassembled the rifle by the time the motorcade was due!

This is still another of the endless examples of how in his knowingly false claim that he closed the case of the assassination Posner opens the case on himself.

In his memo, repferring to what ~~ape~~ appeared in the magazine on page 86, Gary says, "Penn Jones located the Umbrella Man, for the HSCA." On page 260 Posner says that "committee located the Umbrella Man."

Louis Witt was ~~sitting on the steps leading up~~ on the ~~north~~ north side of Elm Street gesturing with an umbrella, thinking ~~of the symbol~~ this was symbolic of Neville Chamberlain's selling out to Hitler ~~and talking about it with an umbrella in his hand.~~ Many theories were invented about this so-called "Umbrella Man." Penn Jones may have located him, I do not recall. But I did recall a story about him, with pictures, ~~pm~~ written by Earl Golz, who was my friend when he was an investigative reporter for the Dallas Morning News. The lead of Earl's story, published August 12, 1978, concludes with regard to this "Umbrella Man" that "he was located and interviewed by the News this week."

Jones may well have told Golz, ~~whose~~ His story reports that it was "A former co-worker of Steven L. Witt (who) identified him as the person who was photographed opening and closing an umbrella in Dealey Plaza about the time President Kennedy was assassinated..."

Still again, with even small details, ~~[illegible]~~ what Posner says can~~not~~ never be accepted without checking and confirming him- which often cannot be done because he is that often wrong.

With only that condensation of Posner's book Gary found ~~may~~ many other criticisms, ~~includu~~ including of tricky writing to imply what could not be said, but including all the criticisms ~~[illegible]~~ that can be made of this very dishonest book is a practical impossibility, there are that many.

Posner's mistakes

As Clif (right) Marks, of San Pablo, California noted in a letter to the ~~News-letter~~ assassination publication The Third Decade, Posner'd "definitive" account of Oswald's life has him at home in Fort Worth, on leave rather than on a trip ~~for~~ from his regular MACS-1 station at Atsugi, Japan, to the Philippines and adjacent waters.

In a letter to U.S.News and World Report, which devoted much of an issue to Posner's book, Marks noted other Posner flauntings of ignorance about the details of Oswald's life in the book he referred to endlessly as the only definitive biography of his and the official mythology's lone assassin:

"1 He refers repeatedly to John Pic (Right) as Oswald's step-brother when they were in fact half - brothers, with their mother Marguerite, in common.

"2. He refers to the Atsugi base (at which Oswald was stationed) as being located twenty miles west of Tokyo, when it is in fact closer to twenty five miles southwest of Tokyo and about fifteen miles west of Yokahoma.

"3. He refers to the death of Marine Martin Schrand as "Subic Bay' [Naval Base] in the Philippines when it fact it occured at the separate Cubi Point Naval Air Station, some miles away.

" 4. He repeatedly refers to Oswald's duty station in California after his return from Japan as El ~~Tor~~ Toro, when ~~inxfactx~~ it was in fact Santa Ana (right), a distinct and separate facility about six miles away.

"5. He also has mixed quotes from Marines stationed in ~~ich~~ either Japan or Santa Ana together

"

Marks also expressed ~~bwal~~ "wonder about Mr. Posner's real knowledge of the case."

Numerous such illustrations of what Historian Stephen Ambrose refers to as Posner's "meticulous" research.